Abstract

A lighted status indicator for a contact (circuit breaker, switch or fuse) with a distinctive color associated with each position of the circuit breaker. The lighted status indicator is composed of a multi-color light source (usually an LED) together with an electronic circuit that changes the color of that light source, depending upon the status (or position) of the circuit breaker, switch, or fuse. Versions of the lighted status indicator circuit are detailed that can be: (1) used with AC, or DC (positive or negative ground) power supplies; (2) used in a wide supply voltage range; (3) either external to the circuit breaker (or switch or fuse) or incorporated into the circuit breaker (or switch or fuse); (4) used with, or without, an activated parallel circuit to a switch, circuit breaker or fuse, (double pole, double throw in the case of a switch, or auxiliary switch in the case of a circuit breaker); (5) used with, or without, a lower power dissipation option, and (6) used with, or without, a momentary test switch incorporated into the status indicator circuit, simulating a single circuit breaker, or a group of circuit breakers, being turned to a "TRIPPED" position, with an associated change in the color of the LED.